



6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEON VALLEY TREE ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting of the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board (TAB) at 6:00 PM, on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, in the Leon Valley City Hall, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas.

I. Poll for Attendance and Determination of a Quorum.

- Staff Liaison: Kristie Flores (Present)
- Leon Valley UTSA Intern: Malik Alnafea (Present)
- TAB Forester: Paul Johnson, Region Urban Texas Forester and Arborist (Absent)
- Members Present: Thomas Benavides, Melinda Dawson, Mary Key, Lyn Joseph (new member), Diana Sarfin and Rich Sarfin
- Members Absent: Denise Berger,

II. Approval of Minutes - February 20, 2013

- Will review next meeting along with minutes from May 22, 2013 meeting.

III. Presentation by Interim Fire Chief Luis Valdez Regarding Recent Firebreak Project in the Park Wilderness Area.

- Chief Valdez presented a Power Point presentation titled "Report on Defensible Space Project Completion", (dated May 7, 2013).

- Current Plan is to mitigate wildfires in 10 locations (i.e., Park Wilderness Area, fields near Hobby Lobby and Grissom Road, Sawyer Neighborhood, and six other areas).
- After identifying risks, resources, and current firefighting response plans, the Park Wilderness Area was selected first to undergo mitigation.
- The Texas A&M Forest Service Firefighters Task Force (from Fredericksburg, Texas) cut the firebreak in 3 days completing the project on May 2, 2013. Chief Valdez, TAB Forester Paul Johnson, and Leon Valley Firefighters and Police provided assistance to the Task Force.
 - A 30 ft. firebreak was cut between the homeowner's property lines and the Park Wilderness Area.
 - All low lying brush was removed and trees were pruned up high enough to allow access for Firefighting Vehicles
 - Trees Loss Report included removal of 4 trees of 6" diameter and 50 trees of 1" diameter which were primarily Hackberries.
 - The project cost \$5,600.00.

IV. Presentation & Photographs of Arbor Day Celebration in Lansing, Michigan by Kristie Flores.

- The booths were well spaced and organized.
- Themes were educational with a focus on children.
- A large tree was planted utilizing a specialized truck that made the hole and planted the tree.

V. Discussion of Possible Public Forums for Tree Education for Leon Valley Residents.

- TAB will consider developing a Tree Education Forum which will provide citizens with information on topics such as Oak Wilt, Proper Tree Planting and Pruning, etc.
- Forum can be held during the first part of the TAB meetings.

VI. Executive Session in Accordance with the Texas Government Code.

- Not required.

VII. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.
- The next meeting of the TAB is set for Wednesday, June 19, 2013, at 6:00 PM in the Leon Valley City Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Benavides".
Chairperson